AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace the claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (original) A catalyst assembly comprising a substrate, nanofilaments which have a nanometer-size diameter and are formed on the substrate, and particles which have a nanometer-size diameter, at least one of the nanofilaments and the particles having a catalytic function.

2. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the nanofilaments are formed at intervals of from 2 to 200 nanometers.

3. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the nanofilaments are formed at intervals of from 2 to 100 nanometers.

4. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the particles have a diameter of from 0.5 to 50 nanometers.

5. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the nanofilaments grow up from a surface of the substrate.

6. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the nanofilaments protrude from a surface of the substrate.

7. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the particles are supported on the naofilament.

8. (currently amended) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is in the shape of a plate, honeycomb, particle, or stick.

9. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the substrate comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of an oxide, a nitride, or a carbide of a metal or silicon, and a solid solution thereof.

10. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the particles have a catalytic function.

11. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the particles comprise at least one selected from the group consisting of a metal, a metal oxide and a metal sulfide.

12. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the particles comprise platinum.

13. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 10, wherein the nanofilaments comprise a material having a co-catalytic function.

14. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 10, wherein the material has a function for adsorbing and desorbing oxygen.

15. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 10, wherein the nanofilaments comprise an oxide of cerium, zirconium or yttrium, or a solid solution thereof.

16. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 10, wherein the nanofilaments comprise CeO_2, ZrO_2 or Y_2O_3.

17. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 10, wherein the nanofilaments comprise CeO_2.

18. (original) A catalyst assembly according to claim 1, wherein the particles comprise platinum and the nanofilaments comprise CeO_2 or a solid solution of CeO_2 and ZrO_2.

19. (currently amended) A catalyst assembly according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 18~~ claim 1, wherein the catalytic function comprises purifying an automobile exhaust gas.

20. (currently amended) A method of purifying an automobile exhaust gas comprising using a catalyst assembly according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 18~~ claim 1.

21. (currently amended) An automobile exhaust gas purifying device comprising a catalyst assembly according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 18~~ claim 1.